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**MARYPORT
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL
REPORTS**

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Senior Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1969

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Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my first annual report as Medical Officer of Health to the Maryport Urban District Council.

My appointment is held jointly with the Cockermouth Urban District Council, Keswick Urban District Council, Workington Borough, and the Cockermouth Rural District Council — thus covering the whole central and western part of the county, for whose Council I also act as the Western Area Medical Officer.

This report is along the lines followed by my predecessor and there are no outstanding variations in the statistics from previous years. With respect to all vital statistics, it must be borne in mind that the population is small and, therefore, seemingly large fluctuations may take place from time to time to which too much significance should not be attached.

The problem of housing continues to be an urgent one. I cannot over-emphasise the pressure and strain that is put on the hospital and welfare services (not to mention the family doctor care team) simply because of lack of suitable accommodation in the community especially for the elderly. The place for people of any age is, wherever possible, in their own homes—not a hospital ward, especially when their sole reason for being there is that there is “nowhere else to put them”. Community Care must cease to be a pious slogan and instead become a practical every day working reality. This however, cannot be done without an extensive and imaginative house building programme and housing policy.

I would congratulate Maryport on its programme of controlled refuse tipping—in contrast to many other areas it is a model of its kind and a credit to the Council and the officials responsible. Money spent on the effective disposal of refuse is indeed money well spent.

The tipping programme at West Lane, Flimby, will be completed this year and a new programme commenced at Fletcher Crescent in the Ewanrigg Estate.

I should like to thank members of the Council for their kindness and helpfulness shown to me, Mr. Thompson, the Senior Public Health Inspector, and Mr. Logan, the Additional Public Health Inspector, for their invaluable assistance; and Mr. Waugh, the Clerk to the Council, for his kindness and help.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ANTONY HARGREAVES.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health: Antony Hargreaves, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector: S. Thompson.

Certificates held:—

1. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.
2. Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meats and other Foods.
3. Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.
4. Lancashire and Cheshire Institutes: Senior Grouped Course Certificate in Building.

Additional Public Health Inspector: D. Logan.

Certificates held:—

Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AREA

Area (in acres)—3,200.

Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid 1969)	12,000
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book	4,189
Rateable Value	£300,774
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£1,253 4s 6d.
Actual Product of Penny Rate	£1,163 6s 7d.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Total number of persons unemployed	... 428 (349 M. 79 F.)
Total number of persons unemployed in 1968	... 504

RAINFALL

Month	Rainfall in inches
January	3.81
February	1.42
March	2.17
April	2.22
May	2.50
June	4.19
July	1.09
August	2.02
September	4.17
October	1.51
November	5.46
December	4.24
Total	34.80

These records are kindly supplied by W. M. Tinkler, Esq., Workington Iron and Steel Company. They are taken in Workington but are considered to be records most nearly approximating Maryport's rainfall.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTHS.

Live Births.

Number: 170.

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate Births	...	78	78	156
Illegitimate Births	...	9	5	14
		—	—	—
Total	...	87	83	170
		—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	14.2
Adjusted rate	...	...	...	13.6
Illegitimate Live Births				
(per cent. of total live births)			...	8

Still Births.

Number: 2.

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	11.6
Total live and still-births	...	...	172
Infant deaths (deaths under one year)	...	...	3
(2 Prematurity: 1 Acute Bronchiolitis)			
Infant Mortality Rates:			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births	...	...	17.7
Legitimate infant deaths (2) per 1,000			
legitimate live births	...	...	12.2
Illegitimate infant deaths (1) per 1,000			
illegitimate live births	...	...	71.5
Neo-natal Mortality Rates (Deaths under			
four weeks (2) per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	11.8
Early Neo-natal Mortality (deaths under			
one week (2) per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	11.8
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (still births and			
deaths under one week combined per			
1,000 live and still-births)	...	...	23.3
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):			
There were no maternal deaths in 1969.			

DEATHS.

		Males	Females	Total
Deaths (all ages)	...	86	69	155
Death rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	12.9
Adjusted death rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	15.4

TABLE OF COMPARABILITY RATES (Uncorrected):-

BIRTH RATE

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
England and Wales	18·0	17·7	17·2	16·0	16·3
County of Cumberland	17·4	16·3	16·3	15·1	15·2
Urban Districts of Cumberland	18·2	16·8	17·0	15·8	15·2
Maryport Urban	17·2	17·5	18·2	14·4	14·2

DEATH RATE

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
England and Wales	11·5	11·7	11·2	11·0	11·9
County of Cumberland	12·0	12·3	11·2	12·4	12·3
Urban Districts of Cumberland	12·3	12·2	11·4	12·7	12·7
Maryport Urban	12·2	13·9	12·0	12·6	12·9

INFANTILE MORTALITY

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
England and Wales	19·0	19·0	18·3	18·0	18·0
County of Cumberland	16·9	21·0	16·9	19·4	18·8
Urban Districts of Cumberland	11·5	21·7	16·3	16·7	14·6
Maryport Urban	14·3	4·7	18·1	22·9	17·7

CAUSE OF DEATHS, 1969

Causes of Death.					Males.	Females.
All Causes					86	69
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1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	0
2.	Tuberculosis, Other	0	0
3.	Syphilitic Disease	0	0
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	0	0
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	0	0
6.	Meningo-coccal Infections	...	...	...	0	0
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	0	0
8.	Measles	...	...	...	0	0
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic diseases	...	...	...	0	0
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	4	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	5	0
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	0	2
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	7	3
15.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	2
16.	Other endocrine etc. diseases	...	...	...	0	1
17.	Cerebrovascular diseases	...	...	...	15	14
18.	Ischaemic heart disease	...	...	...	26	23
19.	Hypertension disease	...	...	...	1	1
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	1	2
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	6	3
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	0	2
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	2
24.	Bronchitis and Emphysema	...	...	...	9	2
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system	...	...	...	2	2
26.	Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	1	0
27.	Intestinal obstructions and hernia	...	...	...	0	2
28.	Other diseases of digestive system	...	...	...	1	0
29.	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	0	1
30.	Anaemias	...	...	...	1	0
31.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	0	0
32.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	0	0
33.	Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	...	...	...	2	0
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	2	2
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	0	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	0	0

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

(a) STAFF

The appointment of Dr. A. Hargreaves as Medical Officer of Health for the area commenced on the 1st November, 1969.

(b) LABORATORY SERVICES

All microbiological work is carried out in the Carlisle Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service. I am most grateful to Dr. D. G. Davies, the Director of the Laboratory, for his help during the year.

(c) LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

Medical services provided under Part III of the National Health Service Act, and Welfare Services provided under the National Assistance Act are the responsibility of the Cumberland County Council. Information about these services, including the provision of Home Helps, Immunisation Services, Accommodation for the Physically Handicapped, assistance for the Unmarried Mother, assistance and advice in connection with Family Planning, and Accommodation for the Aged may be obtained from the Area Health Office, Fieldside, Elizabeth Street, Workington.

Home Nursing and Maternity Services are now an integral part of the Family Doctor Service, together with the Health Visiting Service, and enquiries should accordingly be addressed to the Family Practitioner.

The services include specialist advice on the assessment and correction of vision and hearing defects.

A scheme for the screening of women for prevention of cancer of the neck of the womb is in operation.

Cytology Clinics are held by a Health Visitor in the General Practitioners' surgery on alternate Mondays from 1-30—4-30 p.m. and 5-30—6-30 p.m., with a doctor in attendance.

The County Council carries out the following services in the County Clinic, Selby Terrace:—

Child Welfare Clinics, 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m.

Dental Clinics—By appointment.

Speech Therapy Clinics—By appointment.

Chiropody Clinics—By appointment.

Immunisation Clinics, 1st Wednesday of each month at 1-30 p.m.

By arrangement with the County Medical Officer the General Practitioners carry out immunisations in the Selby Terrace Clinic on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Total number of Infectious Diseases notified	...	...	32
Infectious Diseases Notified 1969.			Number of Notifications
Scarlet Fever	...	...	29
Measles	...	...	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	0
Food Poisoning	...	...	0
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	...	...	2
(Non pulmonary)	...	...	1

IMMUNISATIONS CARRIED OUT DURING 1969

POLIOMYELITIS

Number of persons immunised	...	...	163
Number of persons who received 1st booster doses	...	...	120

DIPHTHERIA

Number of children immunised	...	...	138
Number of children who received booster doses	270

MEASLES

Number of children immunised	76
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TETANUS

Number of children immunised	138
Number of children who received booster doses	270

TUBERCULOSIS

Number of children born in 1956 vaccinated	102
Other ages	4

SMALLPOX

Number of vaccinations	50
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(d) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS

No enforcement action was taken during the year to secure proper care and attention for the elderly and chronic sick.

SERVICES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

WATER SUPPLY

Total samples taken for bacteriological examination ...	53
Number of samples reported satisfactory	51
Number of samples reported unsatisfactory	2

During the year the water supply has been very satisfactory.

The number of samples taken which were unsatisfactory proved negligible and in all cases righted themselves quickly.

Fluoridation of the water supply commenced in September, 1969.

SWIMMING BATHS

Five samples of water taken from the Netherhall swimming baths were satisfactory.

HOUSING

Number of dwellings completed by private enterprise—

New dwellings	14
Dwellings by conversion	0

Number of dwellings completed by the Council—

New dwellings	0
Dwellings by conversion	0

Allocations of Improvement Grants under the Housing Financial Provisions Act, 1958—

Standard	14
Discretionary	82

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' REPORT AND SUMMARY

SHOPS

Forty-seven visits of inspection to shops dealing in all classes of goods were made, including visits for the abatement of nuisances, condemnation of unsound food, etc.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The system of drainage and sewerage remains the same.

58 visits were made to new and existing buildings for the purpose of testing or inspecting drains and sewers.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The work of refuse collection and disposal proceeded smoothly during the year. Satisfactory results in this work are not achieved without detailed planning and constant vigilance. In particular the preparation of a new tipping site at Fletcher Crescent, called for the most careful supervision of local contractors over a period of 12 months during the tipping of civil engineering spoil arising from road works and building operations in the area. More than a thousand of tons of spoil was in fact used in preparing a protective bank at the rear of Victory Crescent.

For most of the year the tipping of refuse was carried on at the Flimby tip at West Lane. I am pleased to report that no infestations of rats were reported on the tip. One fire which occurred was dealt with immediately on notification. Tipping at Flimby ceased on the 9th December, 1969, and was transferred to a new site at Fletcher Crescent, Ewanrigg.

Waste paper to the value of £2198 and weighing 207 tons 9 cwts. was salvaged during the year.

Bulky refuse comprising chiefly discarded furniture and household equipment was collected from 138 premises on special monthly visits during the period under review, this material was broken up and buried on the tip.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

Action was taken to secure the removal of 6 abandoned vehicles.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES INSPECTIONS

	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
(1) Factories without Mechanical Power	4	—	—	—
(2) Factories with Mechanical Power	38	12	—	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	6	—	—	—
Total	48	12	—	—

Cases in which defects were found—

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—			
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAW OR REGULATIONS

(a) *Offensive Trades*—There is no offensive trade carried on in the district.

(b) *Moveable Dwellings and Camping Sites*. There are no licensed Caravan Sites within the Urban District. Irregular siting of caravans by gypsy type travellers on land at Risehow during the year must once more be recorded. Four visits were made in connection with this work.

(c) *Food Hygiene Regulations 1960*. 68 visits were made to premises to which the Regulations apply. Four notices were served requiring that steps be taken to comply with the Regulations. Every opportunity is taken to advise on hygiene and allied matters during visits to food premises.

VERMINOUS HOUSES

No houses were found to be infested with bed-bugs. Insecticide was made available to persons complaining of ants, fleas, etc.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, the Council is directly responsible for ensuring that its area is kept free from rats and mice, so far as is practicable. No statutory action was taken during the year as I prefer to work with and assist occupiers of infested premises using the techniques and poisons recommended by the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Twenty-one visits were made in connection with the investigation of complaints of infestation by rats and mice. Two poisoning treatments of the entire sewer system were carried out by a pest control company during the year. The treatments were based on complaints received of rat infestation over a number of years.

PIGEONS—PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1961, SECTION 74

Two hundred and ninety eight pigeons were destroyed during the year and one hundred and one visits were made in connection with this work.

MEAT OR OTHER FOODS

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in Part, 1969

	Cattle (Excluding Cows)			Sheep and Lambs		Pigs
		Cows	Calves			
Number killed ...	630	2073	24	1427		3005
Number inspected ...	630	2073	24	1427		3005
<i>All diseases except</i>						
<i>Tuberculosis and Cysticerci—</i>						
Whole carcases condemned	0	8	3	5		6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	38	199	0	0		143
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis and Cysticerci ...	6.0	13.4	12.5	0.4		4.96
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>						
Whole carcases condemned	0	0	0	0		0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	0	0	0	0		7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	0	0	0	0		0.2
<i>Cysticercosis—</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	0	2	—	—		—
Carcases submitted for treatment by refrigeration	0	2	—	—		—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	0	0	—	—		—

A Public Health Inspector was in attendance at all times when required for the inspection of meat and the methods and criteria adopted were those recommended in the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, which came into operation on 1st October, 1963.

Examination for tapeworm cyst (*Cysticercus Bovis*) revealed the presence of this parasite in two beasts. The cysts were found in the head in both cases. The heads were condemned and the carcasses sent to a cold store for freezing treatment before being released.

The following slaughtering took place:—

	Beasts	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
1969	2703	1427	3005	24
1968	1234	2111	688	610

There are eight licensed slaughtermen in the Maryport Urban District.

The amount of food condemned and disposed of as being unfit for human consumption was as follows:—

	lbs.
Beef (including offal)	8370
Mutton (including offal)	174
Pork (including offal)	1568
Veal (including offal)	174
Total Meat ...	10286
Fish, etc.	102
Canned Goods	661
Other Food	1672

With reference to the foregoing figures:—

The 102 lbs. of fish were condemned chiefly for decomposition.

The canned goods comprised: Peaches, apricots, pineapples, cooked ham, tomatoes, condensed milk, beans, etc.

All the food material was surrendered voluntarily by the tradesmen concerned. The condemned fish and canned food were disposed of by burial on the Council's refuse tip. The meat condemned at the slaughterhouse was disposed of by the Ministry of Food prior to July, 1954; since that date condemned meat has been sold to a Penrith bone and chemical company.

Bakehouses—There are nine bakehouses on the register, all of which may be considered non-domestic. It was not found necessary to take action in respect of conditions at bakehouses during the year.

Other Premises where Food is prepared—68 inspections were made of premises where food is prepared or sold. There are five premises registered under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, three for the preparation of preserved food and two for the preparation of meat products.

Ice Cream—Thirty-six premises are registered for the sale and five premises for the manufacture of ice cream.

Five samples of ice cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Carlisle for examination. Of these, two samples were reported on as Grade 1, one as Grade 2, one as Grade 3 and one as Grade 4.

THE CLEAN AIR ACTS 1956 and 1968

Four letters were sent to occupiers of factories and businesses in Maryport drawing attention to contraventions of Section 16 of the Clean Air Act 1956 involving the burning of rubbish in the open air.

One notice of proposal to instal a furnace and one application for approval of a chimney height involving the use of natural gas as a fuel were approved.

Summary supplied by the Public Health Inspector to the Medical Officer of Health in pursuance of Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

NUISANCES:—

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	..	122
Visits. Investigation of complaints	...	...	...	...	...	126
Civic Amenities Act, 1967—Visits	...	...	...	...	...	22

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:—

Visits to infectious cases	...	...	...	...	...	18
Patients removed to Isolation Hospital	0

WATER SUPPLIES:—

Water samples taken	53
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HOUSING :—

Number of inspections made under the Housing Acts	194
Number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation	26
Number of houses demolished—	
(a) in pursuance of demolition orders ...	7
(b) otherwise	3
Number of visits made under the Public Health Acts	126
Representations for closing or demolition	26
Closing Orders served	10
Closing Orders determined	3
Demolition Orders made	11
Demolition Orders revoked	0
Housing Administration: Visits	179
Condemned Houses: Visits	9

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT, Etc., INSPECTION :—

No. of Slaughtermen	8
No. of Visits to Slaughter-Houses for meat inspection and enforcing regulations, etc.	Daily visits made.

FACTORIES, etc :—

Visits to the various premises during the year :—

Factories	12
Shops and Food Premises	83
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, General Inspections	3

CONTROL OF HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE :—

Visits to the Refuse Tip	Daily visits made.
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NOTICES SERVED :—

Under the Public Health Acts (Informal)	28
Under the Public Health Acts (Statutory)	11
Under the Housing Acts (Informal)	29
Under the Housing Acts (Statutory)	48
Under the Civic Amenities Act, 1967 (Statutory)	1

S. THOMPSON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

Senior Public Health Inspector,

CUMBERLAND STAR LTD.